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ABSTRACT

The SMILES (Senior Motivators in Learning and Educational Services) program was initiated in 1977 by Salt Lake City School Volunteers, Inc., a nonprofit organization working with the Salt Lake City School District, as an addition to an established, successful school volunteer program. The purpose of the SMILES program is to recruit and train older adults and place them in district schools to help with such activities as story reading, field trips, tutoring, arts, crafts, and sports. Many SMILES volunteers work in resource rooms with slow learners or handicapped children, nurturing, tutoring, and keeping the children on task. The SMILES program also involves: (1) orientation and training of volunteers for tutorial services; (2) recognition activities for volunteers; (3) Older Neighbor and Grandparent Day in elementary schools; (4) innovative use of shut-in retirees as school volunteers; (5) involvement in the arts in such activities as recording books for handicapped students; and (6) the Living Historians project, which recruits older adults to speak to students about careers, science, travel, and personal experiences. The program has benefits both for the schools and the older volunteers. For example, teachers report emotional and behavioral improvements when the SMILES volunteers are present, and older volunteers have the opportunity for providing meaningful service and interacting with others in a stimulating environment. Beginning with 15 volunteers in 1977, the SMILES program had expanded to over 400 volunteers by 1984. Information sheets, promotional materials, information on special events, a newspaper article, questionnaires, and other materials on the program are attached. (AC)

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SMILES

Senior Motivators In Learning and Educational Services

PS 020608

Salt Lake City School District
Volunteer and Partnership Programs

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SMILES

SENIOR MOTIVATORS IN LEARNING AND EDUCATION SERVICES

Information Sheet

WHAT? SMILES, Senior Motivators In Learning and Education Services is a special program of Salt Lake City School Volunteers Inc., a nonprofit organization working with the Salt Lake City School District. The SMILES Project, privately funded by community contributions, is an addition to the established, successful school volunteer program. It brings into the schools a rich and relatively untapped resource - the concerned older volunteer with a lifetime of learning and experience, talents and warmth.

WHO? The purpose of the program is to recruit, train, and place older volunteers in schools throughout the district. No special skills are required. The time commitment is flexible - an hour or two a week, or more, on a regular basis.

HOW? SMILES are being recruited to assist with:

sharing life history	music	listening to children
reading stories	learning centers	eye tests
knitting	library	special events
sewing	playground	mounting pictures
typing	carpentry	art
field trips	public speaking	crafts
posters and charts	drama	science
tutoring in	plant studies	experiment centers
math	dancing	sports
reading	cooking	career guidance
spelling	making learning aids	running off dittos

WHY? SMILES is designed to meet the needs of two important groups in our community, the older citizens, who need to be valued for the asset they are, who seek rewarding and meaningful involvement in their lives, and our youth - students who need individual attention and an opportunity to interact with an older generation. It works both ways.

Daphne Williams
Coordinator
Volunteer Services
440 East 1st South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
801 328-7346

SMILES - A Program Where Everyone Wins

The SMILES Senior Volunteer Program (Senior Motivators in Learning and Education Services) came into existence in September of 1977 as a special project of School Volunteers, Inc., the well established volunteer program of Salt Lake City School District. While home/school partnerships were strong, needs of the schools were growing and availability of parents as volunteers was threatened as mothers joined the work force.

The coordinator and board of School Volunteers, Inc., recognized that there was a vast pool of active, talented, experienced older people in our community who could be involved in our schools to meet the needs of students. A proposal was submitted to the Junior League of Salt Lake City for funding of a 3 year pilot project to develop a senior volunteer program. Upon its acceptance, a half-time coordinator--a newly retired teacher--was employed. The district provided office space, telephone and secretarial help.

SMILES is administered under the direction of School Volunteers, Inc., board and volunteer committee. Since the pilot funding expired, the program has been financially supported by business and private contributions and foundation grants, which is evidence of its value to the community.

From a small beginning of 15 volunteers in 1977 the SMILES program has expanded to nearly 400 who, last year, gave to the schools and the community service valued at over $126,000, a return of nine times the cost of the project. SMILES volunteers are active K-12 in 33 schools and two Head Start centers.

The changes that have taken place because of this volunteer involvement have been exciting. Many SMILES volunteers work in resource rooms with slow learners or handicapped children nurturing as they tutor, keeping the children "on task." One woman taught dictionary skills to 53 undereducated seventh graders. Another has given over 8,000 hours to a resource classroom, and also provided glasses and dental care to needy students. Positive study habits have changed achievement scores.

Teachers report emotional and behavioral improvement when SMILES volunteers are present. Students respond with trust and frankness when older people listen and help. They know this older friend is there because she/he cares.

The impact of this intergenerational program is evident in other ways. Older Neighbor Day (now called Older Neighbor and Grandparent Day) was introduced to our elementary schools in 1979 under the co-sponsorship of SMILES and the Salt Lake City PTA Elementary Council. It was hoped that increasing involvement with student activities--seeing the actual workings of schools--would bring support for education from the senior population, and entice some to volunteer. Both goals have been achieved. Each year the attendance has doubled with visitors coming from all over Utah, and from other nearby states. Now, grandparents and their families plan for this day.

A second intergenerational activity in its infancy is the student "adoption" or outreach to older people in retirement centers or nursing homes. Schools have involved the latter in knitting, crocheting and sewing projects. A special project sponsored by two teachers at Northwest Intermediate School involved 41

students with more than 125 older people at Escalante Village and the Eva Dawn Home. Activities included personal interviews by journalism classes, lunch and gift exchanges on holidays.

A third intergenerational project administered for all our schools in partnership with the Assistance League is the resource "Living Historians," which provided 49 people for career, science, travel and personal history talks numbering 328.

Special placements include one puppeteer for the "Kids on the Block" puppets, a handicapped awareness program; a volunteer who devotes full time to the "ethics" program (teaching democratic principles) in our schools, volunteers who teach children in the Shriners' Hospital and Reading is Fundamental program participants.

Another change that has taken place is the involvement of company retirees as SMILES volunteers in the schools. Retirees have found they can continue meaningful ties with their corporations while developing new relationships with young people in the schools. One outstanding example of this effort has been the Utah Power & Light Company adoption of Glendale Intermediate School. Nine SMILES volunteers, all retirees of Utah Power & Light, gave 705 hours of service during the 1982-83 school year, tutoring handicapped students and instructing in lapidary, photography and shop. The program, now three years old, continues to grow. Three Mountain Bell retirees are involved at South High School, tutoring port-of-entry students.

A significant increase in the number of senior volunteer programs has resulted from SMILES participation in the NSVP intergenerational network. The SMILES program has served as a model for many others wishing to begin similar programs. When SMILES began in 1977, it was the only program of its kind in Utah. Now, there are at least eight other programs that have begun as a result of on site technical assistance given by the coordinator. In addition, the coordinator has responded to written requests for information from numerous states, making personal visits when possible.

In May of 1983, the SMILES program was given first runner-up award in a national contest sponsored by National School Volunteers and Tupperware Home Parties Inc. Out of twenty entries, SMILES was second only to a program heavily funded and administered by the University of Pittsburgh. Our volunteers are justifiably proud of this recognition.

SMILES continues to provide training in tutoring techniques, materials to use with children, and support to volunteers through frequent contact and recognition. Because of the meaningful service these volunteers render our schools, our students are succeeding and growing academically and emotionally. Learning is enhanced and the educational experience is enriched as SMILES volunteers share their lives with youth.

The intergenerational approach builds relationships of respect and trust--it joins generations. SMILES (Senior Motivators In Learning and Educational Services) is proud to serve Salt Lake City Schools.

SMILES Senior Volunteer Program

Volunteers - June 1978	54
Volunteers - May 1980	172
Volunteers - May 1982	311
Volunteers - May 1983	392
Volunteers - May 1984	411

Hours of Volunteer Service

		Value at $7.00 Per Hour
Direct service to students	18,000 hours	$126,000.00
Recruitment, public awareness and training	1,200 hours	8,400.00
Total	19,200 hours	$134,400.00

Background of Volunteers

secretaries	doctor
insurance executives	salesmen
lumberman	carpenter
farmer	lawyer
teachers	church official
accountants	homemakers
nurse	artist
army officer	department store buyer
actor	college professor
social workers	optician
YMCA executive	retirees from the railroad,
public official	Mt. Bell, Kennecott Copper
geologist	and Utah Power & Light Co.

Facets of SMILES Program

1. Orientation and training of volunteers for tutorial services
2. Recognition activities for volunteers
3. "Older Neighbor and Grandparent Day" in elementary schools in cooperation with the Salt Lake City PTA Council

   (3,400 grandparents and older neighbors visited in October, 1983)

4. Innovative use of shut-in retirees as school volunteers

5. Involvement in the arts

-recording books for handicapped students
-accompanists and music appreciation instructors
-arts and crafts instructors
-school art fair participants
-leaders for RIF program
-puppeteer for handicapped puppet presentation

6. Living historians - interviewed by students for lifetime experiences.

Benefits of Program - for Schools

-improve student basic skills acquisition
-improve student achievement levels
-improve student discipline
-improve student self-esteem
-improve attendance of students being tutored
-provide motivation and stimulation for students
-provide positive mature adult model
-build intergenerational relationships of respect and trust

- for Older Volunteers

-opportunity for meaningful service
-recognition of value to youth and community
-opportunity for growth and learning
-interaction with others in stimulating atmosphere

SMILES Are Special

SMILES volunteers are very special people. They come to our schools to share their lives and their time because they want to be with children--to help them succeed, not because they have to and not because they have nothing else to do. They are active, busy men and women.

Placing a SMILES volunteer successfully in a school requires sensitivity to particular needs--human needs (see sheet 2). Once the older person has agreed to volunteer he will sit by the telephone waiting for the coordinator to call--to set the day when he begins. When we place him promptly and give a touch of extra nurturing through the year, we have a lifetime volunteer.

So--please contact last year's SMILES volunteers soon after school starts. Let's keep them coming. Then, when we call you with a new name, please follow through immediately. Remember, the quality of support provided by the school staff and coordinator is often the key to how long and how successfuly volunteers engage in their work at a school.

Many thanks for your help! Good luck for 1984-85.

HUMAN NEEDS-MOTIVATORS

Motivators for Volunteering

1. to belong - feel accepted
2. to give of oneself - help others
3. to be recognized as a worthwhile person
4. to learn and grow
5. to be creative
6. to be influential - leadership
7. to share in problem solving and decision making
8. to be successful - see results
9. to have enjoyment - caring relationships

STRATEGIES IN RECRUITING

1. Preparation
   - A. Assess school needs.
   - B. Build public awareness.
   - C. List where to recruit.
2. Make your approach
   - A. Know person's interests.
   - B. Appeal to human needs.
   - C. Set up interview.
3. Present your pitch
   - A. State need in terms of results.
   - B. Plan what volunteer can do.
   - C. Benefits to volunteer.
4. Ask the person to volunteer
5. Set up immediate placement

   Take volunteer to school the first time. Be a friend.

A. Special needs of older volunteers in the schools.

Since he has been out of school for a long time the older volunteer needs the teacher to:

1. orient him to the kind of help the teacher would like
2. plan work and have materials ready when he arrives
3. give clear instructions, minimizing educational jargon and technical terms with which the volunteer may be unfamiliar
4. communicate and evaluate with the volunteer when feasible.- communication is essential whatever system is used: phone, folders, class sheets, etc.
5. allow the volunteer to do meaningful work, with some variety and with increased responsibility as he becomes familiar with the routine and subject matter - a chance to grow
6. allow for some choices where volunteer can use his lifetime skills and expertise in a satisfying way
7. notify volunteer of times when he will not be needed because of schedule changes
8. be aware of transportation and other personal needs
9. show sincere appreciation

B. Special advantages of using older volunteers

1. An older person is not motivated by presence of his own child. He is there because he loves children and really wants to help them.
2. If he is given opportunity for meaningful service and is shown sincere appreciation, he may stay with the same teacher and provide increasingly skillful help for many years.
3. Dependability is the key word for the older volunteer. Some even ask for summer placement. Many consider it a second career or a social experience - being with young people of any age.
4. The older volunteer brings extra wisdom, patience and enthusiasm.
5. Older people provide good adult role models for children, helping them to develop respect,positive attitudes toward aging.
6. Research with older volunteers in the classroom suggests that their participation benefits them as well as the schools.

In summary:

Benefits of Program - for Schools

-improve student basic skills acquisition
-improve student achievement levels
-improve student discipline
-improve student self-esteem
-improve attendance of students being tutored
-provide motivation and stimulation for students
-provide positive mature adult model
-build intergenerational relationships of respect and trust

- for Older Volunteers

-opportunity for meaningful service
-recognition of value to youth and community
-opportunity for growth and learning
-interaction with others in stimulating atmosphere

WANTED

VOLUNTEERS
55 YEARS AND OLDER...

...to contribute two hours a week for six weeks tutoring students, creating bulletin boards, sharing life histories, demonstrating arts and crafts or whatever your 'specialty'.

No teaching experience necessary
Training is provided.

REWARD

THANKS.....from the students of the Salt Lake City School District.

CALL..... **SMILES** 322-1471

Senior Volunteers

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SMILES

YOU'VE MADE OUR DAY!

(OLDER NEIGHBOR AND GRANDPARENT DAY, THAT IS!)

WHAT A SUPER DAY WE HAD THIS YEAR WITH NEARLY 3400 GRANDPARENTS AND OLDER NEIGHBOR FRIENDS VISITING OUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. COMPLIMENTS STILL COME IN FOR YOU AND THE ACTIVITIES IN YOUR SCHOOL. NEW VOLUNTEERS HAVE SIGNED UP TO COME IN REGULARLY SO---

THANKS TO YOU!

PTAs, PRINCIPALS, VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS, TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND ESPECIALLY THOSE WONDERFUL AND PATIENT WOMEN IN THE LUNCHROOMS--YES, TO ALL OF YOU---

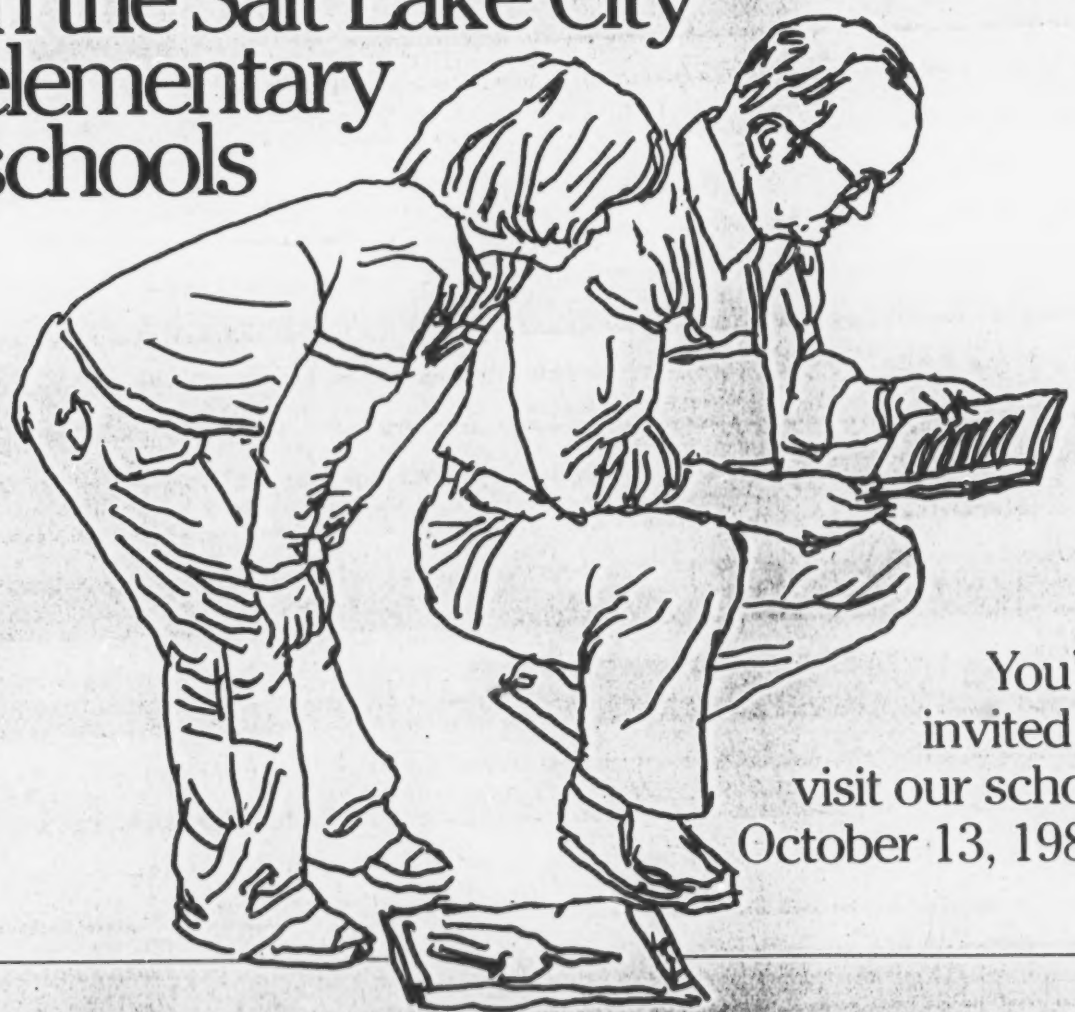
THANKS FOR A GREAT SUCCESS!

Hazel

HAZEL B. ELLISON, COORDINATOR
AND SMILES SENIOR VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE

Older Neighbor & Grandparent Day

in the Salt Lake City elementary schools



You're invited to visit our school October 13, 1983.

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Co-sponsored by the P.T.A. Elementary Council and the SMILES Senior Volunteer Program

Older Neighbor/Grandparent Week - October 22-26, 1990

Older Neighbor/Grandparent Week is the time when older citizens are invited to come to the schools to share in activities, to be taken on tours of the schools and to visit classrooms. This week is sponsored by the Elementary PTA Council and the SMILES committee of the Salt Lake City School Volunteers, Inc. Board.

Each participating school will choose one day during the week to conduct its activities. Many teachers encourage the visitors to work with children, hear them read, practice math facts or spelling and share special interests, hobbies or life experiences with the class. It is customary to serve light refreshments.

Each child in the elementary schools will receive a flyer provided by the district office. The schools are to personalize these flyers. Children may also want to make their own invitations to accompany the flyer. Students are encouraged to invite seniors that they know who live near their school.

The purpose of this activity is three fold:

1. To have an intergenerational learning experience.
2. To broaden and strengthen the base of support for our schools-- to let seniors citizens see how their tax dollars are spent.
3. To interest senior citizens to serve as volunteers in our schools. Active recruitment must be done in order for this to happen. Set up a table with a sign asking for their help with a sign up sheet.

Let the school secretary and other staff know what is being planned. In our ads we ask the seniors to call the school in their neighborhood to find out what is being planned.

I hope this will be a positive experience for your school and students. Thank you for all your work in advance. You will be asked to fill out a questionnaire evaluating this event in your school. Please return it when you send in your volunteer hours for October.

OLDER NEIGHBOR & GRANDPARENT DAY
AN A+ EVENT

Sunshine and warm weather were only the frosting on the top of a most perfect Older Neighbor & Grandparent Day held in October 1983, in twenty-seven Salt Lake City School District elementary schools and at Matheson Head Start. Sponsored jointly by the Salt Lake Elementary PTA Council and the district's SMILES Senior Volunteer Program, this event brought over 3,400 older neighbors and grandparents into the schools—a healthy 25 percent increase over 1982. Not only were there grandparents from the Salt Lake valley, but also from Idaho, Nevada, Wyoming, Southern Utah and Illinois. With several schools reporting more than 200 visitors, it was truly a day to remember.

Teachers and PTAs cooperated in planning this successful day, as did the children, who in some schools designed handmade invitations. Activities varied throughout the district. Old and young interacted enthusiastically by attending musical programs, viewing class projects and having refreshments or lunch together.

Many teachers encouraged visitors to work with children, hear them read, practice math facts or spelling. In several classrooms, grandparents shared a special interest, hobby or life experience with the class. What a thrill to see three generations in one classroom at Bonneville sharing talents—a grandfather sang, his daughter accompanied on the piano and his grandchild played the violin! Certainly the term "generation gap" did not apply that day.

SMILES, the cosponsor, is the unique award-winning program of Salt Lake City School Volunteers, Inc., which involves people fifty-five and over as volunteers in the schools at all levels. Since one of the main purposes of Older Nieghbor & Grandparent Day is to interest visitors in sharing their experience, talents and services with our schools, many new volunteers were added that day to the growing numbers of SMILES volunteers. And what a great way to achieve our primary goal—that of broadening and strengthening the base of support for our schools among older taxpayers in our community. They tell us they now count on this special day!

Needless to say, this tradition of Older Neighbor & Grandparent Day is here to stay! Congratulations on a job well done and good luck for October 18, 1984.

Hazel Ellison
SMILES Coordinator

Margaret Hunt
SMILES Committee

P.S. Attached is a lighthearted but more complete schedule for use in planning future Older Neighbor & Grandparent Days. Please keep it and pass it on to your next PTA president. Do remember the afternoon kindergartens in your plans. Those little ones and their grandparents are important!

Grandparents and Older Neighbors Visit S.L. Schools

By Peter Scarlet
Tribune Staff Writer

Public education in the 1980s is different than it was 30 years ago, but today's educators are doing a good job; agreed many of the citizens who took advantage of Grandparents and Older Neighbors Day Thursday in Salt Lake City Schools.

Visitors to the Salt Lake City School District's 27 elementary schools were treated to peeks at classrooms, programs presented by students, light refreshments or lunch, and meetings with teachers and principals in which ideas were exchanged.

Gene Berry, coordinator of School Volunteers Inc., which organized the Grandparents and Older Neighbors Day program several years ago, said attendance has risen each year since the program was started.

Last year, she said, some 2,700 citizens visited the schools, more than twice the 1,200 who initially participated in the program.

Adolph and Tina Maez, who have three grandchildren attending Washington Elementary School, 420 N. 200 West, in kindergarten, first grade and fourth grade, are veterans visitors and enjoy it.

"We've done this before," said Mr. Maez. "They (the children) really look forward to it and we look forward to it too."

Mrs. Maez expressed high praise for the school.

"Our two daughters came here and we think this is the best elementary school in Salt Lake City," she said.

The couple agreed the school is doing a "good job" in educating youngsters, and they specifically praised the school's bilingual programs.

Frank B. Jex, who taught educational statistics to teachers and school administrators for 30 years at the University of Utah before retiring, is a regular volunteer at Washington Elementary, where he helps fifth graders in Charlotte Warr's class study math twice each week.

He discussed his role and provided Thursday's approximately 65 visitors an example of the work he does with the students.

Dr. Jex assists at the school in conjunction with SMILES (Senior Motivators In Learning and Educational Services), a program in which adults are used for tutoring, story telling, career counseling and activities supervision in the elementary schools.

"I think this school is doing an exceptionally fine job. I am very impressed with the dedication and the amount of energy they show here," Dr. Jex said.

"There are lots of excellent teachers here and morale is very good."

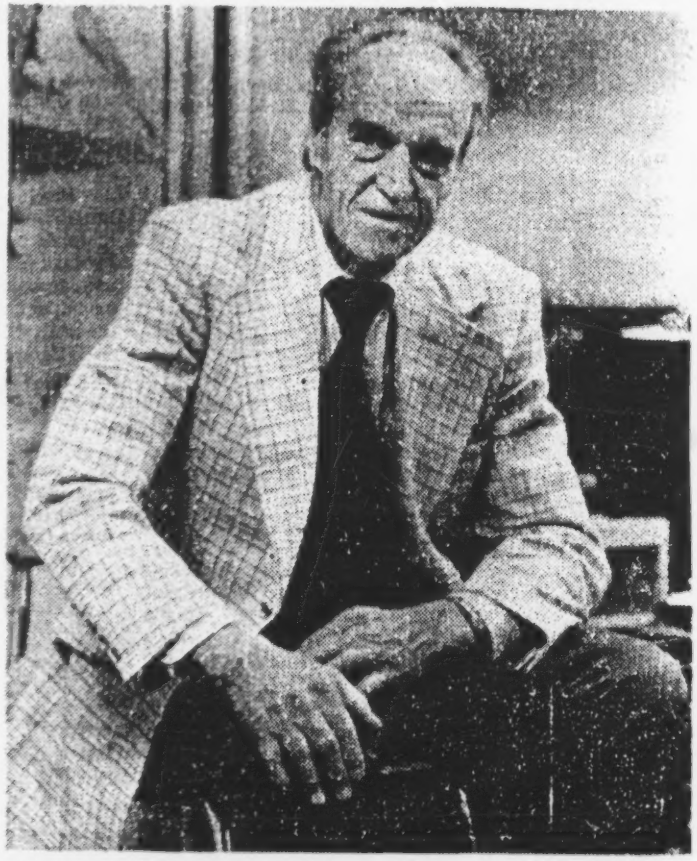
Dr. Jex said Grandparents and Older Neighbor Day is a valuable activity for the older citizens and for the school.

"In many ways, one sees greater dedication among grandparents than parents, who are often busy working and lack the time. Grandparents have more time and are eager to help," he said.

Time to spare?
Love to share?
To become a school volunteer, call:

328-7346

16



Lorenzo D. Spencer, Bluffdale, was named the Volunteer of the Month for work that he does in the school with children.

DESERET NEWS, WED. P.M./THURS. A.M., JUNE 1-2, 1983

Volunteer program at S.L. schools honored nationally

A volunteer program for senior citizens in the Salt Lake City School District has been honored by the National School Volunteer Program at its annual convention in Boston.

The program, called SMILES — Senior Motivators in Learning and Educational Services — was first runner-up in the nation in competition for intergenerational programs by the volunteer group.

SMILES began in the Salt Lake district in 1977 when Hazel Ellison, a retired English teacher, was hired part-time to coordinate the needs of the growing population of the elderly with the district's expanding needs for volunteers.

SMILES volunteers work regularly with students as tutors, resource aides with the handicapped, clerical and classroom aides.

In addition, SMILES conducts several types of activities to help older volunteers feel comfortable in the schools and to provide students with help from individuals who have had a lifetime of experience in organizational settings.

Last year, more than 2,700 senior citizens responded to the invitation by the district's 27 elementary schools during "Older Neighbor and Grandparent Day" and visited classrooms, ate lunch with the students and watched a student presentation.

This is the fourth successive year the district's volunteer program has received such recognition from the National School Volunteer Program. The award, entitled the Apple Tree Award, is given annually by Tupperware Corp.

17

Interview Form

SMILES Volunteer's Name: Mr. / Mrs. / Miss _____

Address _____
Street

_____
City Zip Phone

Do you have any special qualifications, skills, or training that you have not already listed? (language, music, art, etc.)

_____

_____

What age child do you feel most comfortable with? _____

Would you like working one-to-one _____, with groups _____,

in the classroom _____, other _____.

What schools are near your home? _____

How did you hear about the School Volunteer SMILES Program?

News media (specify) _____
Another volunteer _____
An organization or church _____
Other (specify) _____

Any physical limitations? (explain) _____

_____

SMILES Volunteer's Needs:

Transportation (explain) _____

Lunch (explain) _____

SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS, INC.

440 East First South Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 (801) 328-7345

Dear

The SMILES Committee has an exciting opportunity for you, as one of our valued volunteers. The enclosed flyer gives you the details of a very special state conference for school volunteers to be held March 16, 1984 in Orem, Utah.

Now for the good news: SMILES will PAY for registration and lunch for the first 30 SMILES volunteers who sign up with us to attend the conference. We will also arrange transportation, as needed.

The rewards for you are great: new ideas and materials to use with students, tips for increasing your personal skills, and, of course, a chance to socialize and share ideas with other people who care about the educational opportunities for our youth.

This conference will take the place of our spring training session for SMILES volunteers.

By the way, DO NOT mail this pre-registration form in. DO call our office at 328-7345 by February 28 to reserve your spot and join us for a fun, stimulating day.

Until we hear from you--

Hazel

Hazel B. Ellison

P.S. Hope you are all keeping well. SMILE! Spring will soon be here!

Exciting News!

The SMILES Senior Volunteer Committee of Salt Lake City School Volunteers invites you to attend a very special presentation

Reading Between the Lines
or
Children's Literature in Action

Dr. Pat Whitfield and her associate Janet Booth Palmer of Westminster College will explore with you the magic world of children's books and their importance in a child's education. You'll learn

- how to use a favorite book to improve reading skills
- questions to ask to check comprehension
- how to help a child choose an appropriate book
- how to give positive feedback when reading with a student

and many other techniques to making tutoring or reading time with a child more pleasurable and productive.

SMILES volunteers, PTA presidents and volunteer coordinators — bring your friends and share this unique training experience. You'll love it!

What — Reading Between the Lines
When — Tuesday, February 26th, 9–11:30 a.m.
Where — Salt Lake City School District office
440 East 100 South
Rooms 112–113
Parking available in rear of building

Refreshments

Please call Hazel Ellison, SMILES coordinator, at 328-7345 to reserve your place or to make arrangements if you need transportation.

SMILES Recognition Social

We want to say thank you

Because we couldn't do it without you!

Please join us at the
Governor's Mansion
603 East South Temple
West entrance
Thursday, May 14th at 1:00 p.m.

Refreshments and entertainment

smiles

Reply to
Daphne Williams
SMILES Office
328-7345
by May 5th

SMILES
Volunteer Questionnaire

Thank you for all your volunteer help this past year. We know that all the people you have helped greatly appreciate the time and energy you have given. We would like to know how we can enhance your volunteer experience. Please help us by answering these questions.

1. Do you feel the assistance you've been giving in the classrooms has been needed or wanted by the children and teachers? _____

2. What kind of help have you been giving in the schools?

   a._____ General work (correcting papers, preparing projects, etc.)

   b._____ With groups of children with reading, math, etc.

   c._____ With children one-on-one.

   d._____ Other (Please explain briefly)

3. How has the help you've been giving been meaningful to you? _____

   _____

   What could be done to make it more worthwhile for you?_____

   _____

4. Have you attended any of our SMILES training sessions?_____
   If not, briefly explain why not.

   a._____ Time (too early, too long, etc.)

   b._____ Location (too hard to get to, no transportation, etc.)

   c._____ Other

5. If you did attend the training sessions what helped you the most?

6. Do you enjoy receiving our SMILES newsletter? _____

   What would you like to see changed or included in it?

Name (optional)_____

Older Volunteers Bring "SMILES" to Salt Lake District

Overview

• SMILES (Senior Motivators In Learning and Education Services) is a satellite program of School Volunteers, Inc., Salt Lake City School District. It brings into the schools a rich and relatively untapped resource--the concerned older volunteer with a lifetime of learning and experience, talents and warmth. SMILES volunteers assist in everything from tutoring in subject areas to sharing their own life histories.

• The purpose of the program is to recruit, train and place older volunteers in schools throughout the district in order to give students individual attention and an opportunity to interact with the older generation.

Major Outcomes

• The number of senior volunteers has grown from about 15 initially to over 215 during the 1980-81 school year. Accurate records are difficult to obtain, since volunteers are more concerned with the results of their efforts than with record-keeping, often neglecting to sign in and out. One woman was discovered to have put in between 800-900 unreported hours.

• Children who do not have their grandparents with them benefit from the relationship with older volunteers as well as from the academic assistance.

• Barriers between youth and older people are broken down as myths about aging are dispelled for students and misconceptions about youth are dissolved for seniors.

• A special program, Living Historians, has grown out of SMILES. Senior volunteers lecture in the schools about their life histories, travel experience, participation in historical events, or areas of specialization in work or hobbies.

Need for the Program

• Many parents who had previously been volunteering in the schools were moving out of the home and into the work force, cutting back on school volunteer participation.

• It was recognized that there are thousands of people 55 and older in the Salt Lake City area with experience and expertise that should be shared.

• A proposal for a three year pilot senior volunteer program was presented to and approved by the Junior League of Salt Lake City.

Unique Characteristics

• Salt Lake City School District is the fifth largest district in Utah with over 23,000 students enrolled in 27 elementary schools, 6 intermediate schools, 4 high schools and 4 special schools. The district is located in the business and population center of Utah. School patrons represent a wide socio-economic range and a diversity of ethnic groups.

• Volunteerism is officially supported by the Salt Lake City School District Board of Education.

• SMILES has been in effect since 1977.

Making It Work

• Do gain district-level and local school support for the senior volunteer program through extensive public relations.

• Do have the administrative structure in place before tackling projects in order to insure continuity of the process.

• Do orient and train volunteers to prepare them for going into the schools. Emphasize three things: (1) Accountability. If volunteers

(cont.)

MAKING IT WORK (cont.)

are unable to be at the school as planned, they should notify the teacher. (2) Whatever happens at the school is privileged information and stays at the school. (3) Volunteers are to take directions from the professional under whom they are working.

• Don't expect the program administrator to work without pay. Most people cannot afford to donate 35-40 hours a week to act as a program coordinator.

• Don't be discouraged if senior volunteers are difficult to recruit. Most of them are busy with hobbies and interests they have developed over the years.

Doing It

1. Obtain support from administrators, teachers, PTA, and other groups with which volunteer activities will need coordination.
2. Employ a district-level coordinator.
3. Designate local school coordinators.
4. Appoint assisting committees from the groups administering the program. If it is an independent program, establish an advisory board.
5. Develop a budget.
6. Determine needs which older volunteers can help meet.
7. Recruit volunteers according to the needs.
8. Train volunteers and teachers working with volunteers.
9. Place volunteers in classrooms.
10. Document activities and results.

Resources Needed

- A district-level senior volunteer coordinator, assisted by committees from School Volunteers, Inc. and the Junior League, directs SMILES activities.
- SMILES is now privately funded by community contributions.
- The Living Historians program is administered by the Assistance League of Salt Lake City.
- Office space, secretarial services and meeting facilities for SMILES are provided by Salt Lake City School District.
- A filmstrip from the National School Volunteer Program (NSVP) "The Older School Volunteer," was used as a public relations tool to build support for SMILES.[1]
- A filmstrip developed by the SMILES Committee was used as a recruitment tool.

Other Ideas

- People in retirement centers are potential volunteers who should not be overlooked. Most of them are there merely because they should not live alone.
- Business retirees can be contacted about volunteering before they retire.

A mutually rewarding experience for both old and young.

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For More Information

Media Materials Available:

-slide presentation explaining SMILES

-newsletter

Contact: Hazel B. Ellison, Coordinator
Senior Volunteer Program
Salt Lake City School District
440 East 100 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
Telephone: (801) 322-1471

[1]The filmstrip, "The Older School Volunteer," is available from:

National School Volunteer Program (NSVP)
300 N. Washington St.
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: (703) 836-4880

SMILES Joining Generations
Salt Lake City School District
440 East First South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
328-7345

I. Mr. / Mrs. / Miss _____
(Last name) (First name) Age (optional)

_____
(Home address) (Zip code) (Phone)

II. Volunteer Experience:

Kind of Experience	Organization
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

III. Life Experience and Training:

Kind of Experience	Organization
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Foreign Language spoken _____

Education _____

Now employed at _____

V. Volunteer Placement:

Age group preference? (circle one)

5 - 8 years 9 - 12 years Intermediate Senior High

Volunteer service preference? (circle one)

Working with students Enrichment projects

General assistance Clerical work

Other_____

On what day(s) and time(s) are you available?

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
9:00-11:00	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
10:00-12:00	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1:00- 3:00	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Would you be willing to work at home? yes _____ no _____

V. How were you recruited? News media (specify)_____

Another volunteer_____

An organization or church_____

Other (specify)_____

Would you be willing to help recruit other SMILES volunteers?_____

VI. Transportation

( ) Drive ( ) Live within walking distance of school

( ) Ride bus ( ) Need transportation

VII. Physical Limitations (Explain)_____

VIII. Whom should we notify in case of emergency?

_____

(name) (address) (phone)

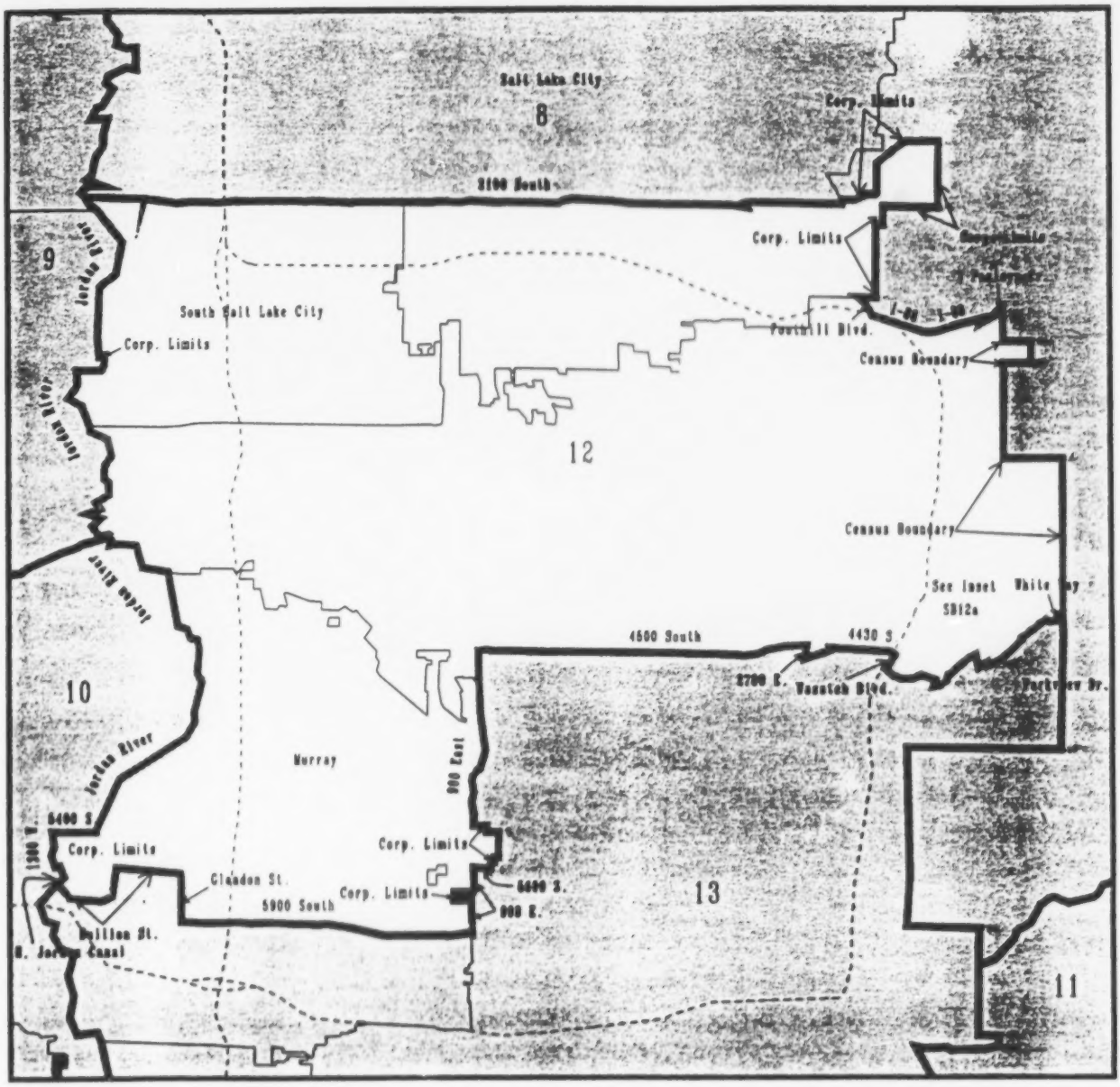
_____

Signed

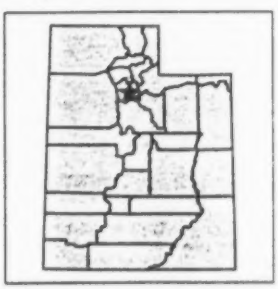
Skills Survey

1. Do you have grandchildren? yes _____ no _____
2. If yes, are they attending school in S.L. District? yes _____ no _____
3. Where I've lived _____
4. Places I've been _____
5. Things I've done _____
6. People I know _____
7. History I remember _____
8. Would you share some of your history and memories with our children?_____

yes_____ no _____



Map Location



Legend

- District Lines
- County Lines
- City Lines
- Major Roads

District 12
State School Board

03/13/92

Salt Lake City School District

Volunteer and Partnership Programs

Business/School Partnerships
SMILES
Family Involvement
...and More

Salt Lake City School Volunteer
and Partnership Programs
440 East 100 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
(801) 328-7346

This brochure is made available through the efforts of
Salt Lake City School Volunteers, Inc.

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Families are valuable partners in a child's education. Studies show that a major difference between good schools and great schools is a family's involvement in the learning process.

Parents, guardians, grandparents and other extended family have many opportunities for involvement in education through individual schools.

Salt Lake City School District recognizes the importance of the link between families and schools and actively supports and solicits family involvement in decision making.

Closer ties between home and school, between families and educators, encourage improved attendance, higher academic achievement and better social adjustment. This means more learning and better education.

Whether or not parents work outside the home, involvement can be tailored to fit their schedule and interests.

How can families become involved in education?

- Contact your child's teacher or the principal.
- Contact your school's volunteer coordinator. Many elementary and all secondary schools in the Salt Lake City School District have volunteer coordinators to match the needs of the teachers with the time and abilities of the volunteers.
- Contact the district Volunteer and Partnership Office, 328-6346.

How can working parents become involved?

- Provide classroom enhancement. Examples: compile a guide of possible field trips; compile a directory of community resources for a project; organize a classroom library; make graphs, charts, maps, flash cards, overhead transparencies.
- Assist teachers. Examples: track school absences by contacting parent in the evening; assist with class records, statistical reports, health information; score, graph, record and average tests.
- Help students. Examples: organize a tutorial program for evenings or weekends; help with science or art projects or special activities after school, evenings or weekends; make costumes or scenery for plays.

...AND MORE

Salt Lake City School Volunteers, Inc.

...AND MORE

Salt Lake School Volunteers, Inc. was organized in 1969 for the purpose of promoting the involvement of volunteers in our schools. Its governing board of directors is comprised of community and district leaders who donate their time to promote volunteer programs.

In addition to the Business/School Partnerships, SMILES and Family Involvement programs, Salt Lake School Volunteers, Inc. organizes and implements the programs and projects listed below.

PEER AND CROSS-AGE TUTORING. Student volunteers tutor other students at their grade level or different grade levels.

COMMUNITY AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS form partnerships with schools, similar to business partnerships.

GREAT BOOKS PROGRAM. Volunteer and Partnership office coordinates this national program and provides training for volunteers to administer it.

INCENTIVE PROGRAMS. Examples are Pizza Hut's Book-it and JB's Gold Star programs in several district elementary schools.

HANDS-ON SCIENCE. Volunteers conduct physical and life science experiments in fifth and sixth grades.

TRAININGS. Teachers and administrators are trained to use volunteers effectively in their schools. Volunteers learn tutoring skills and the finer points of volunteering.

ASSOCIATE READER PROGRAM. Volunteers critique student writing, give positive feedback, and encourage students to write more.

FUN RUN. This fund-raising event increases awareness of the volunteer program and serves as a salute to school volunteers.

PARENT ANSWER BOOK. Published by the Salt Lake School Volunteers, Inc. Board of Directors, this book provides helpful hints to families on improving their child's learning.

DARE PROGRAM. This drug awareness program, in partnership with the Salt Lake City Police Department, is presented in all elementary schools.

OLDER NEIGHBOR/GRANDPARENT WEEK. For a week in October older neighbors and grandparents are recognized in each elementary school. They share life stories and activities with students.

RECOGNITIONS. Salt Lake School Volunteers, Inc. hosts a SMILES recognition social and a partnership luncheon. A Volunteer of the Year Award is presented annually at the social. The Volunteer Office also provides items for individual schools to present to volunteers.

OFFICER FRIENDLY. The SLC Police Department is a partner that promotes civic responsibility and a friendly relationship between police officers and school age children through child safety programs.

BUSINESS/SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

BUSINESS/SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Education is the Business of Every Business

Business and schools working together to meet the goals they both share is an investment in the future growth of our community. When a business works in partnership with a school, everyone benefits.

How can businesses help?

- Provide basic skills tutoring
- Provide career speakers
- Facilitate job shadowing
- Teach mini courses
- Organize internship programs
- Contribute to teacher and student incentives
- Make in-kind contributions
- Suggest curriculum to match future needs of business

How does a business get involved?

An information packet is available from the Salt Lake School Volunteer and Partnership Programs. To request a packet, call 328-7346.

What partnerships are in place now?

Nearly 50 business partnerships enhance education in the Salt Lake City School District. They range from the state's major utilities to small family-owned businesses. Business partnerships come in many configurations. Most businesses release their employees to tutor students. Some print parent newsletters. Others sponsor special events. A school and business work creatively to form a program to meet a school's particular needs.

How do businesses benefit?

Investing in a company volunteer program helps build a positive company image in the community.

The involvement of companies in educational collaborations directly benefits employee productivity and morale. It spells a clear commitment to the next generation of workers.

In addition, employees learn new skills and gain a heightened sense of team spirit.

SMILES

Salt Lake City School Volunteers, Inc.

TIME TO SPARE?

Love to share?

The hours you spend volunteering in a classroom are measurable. But the effects of those hours will last a student's lifetime.

SMILES is...

...a volunteer program in the Salt Lake City School District. SMILES means Senior Motivators In Learning and Educational Services. The program brings concerned older citizens into schools to share their experience, knowledge and love. A SMILES volunteer helps a student grow academically and socially.

Who are SMILES volunteers?

They are retired business or professional people, teachers, homemakers 60 and older.

What does a SMILES volunteer do?

SMILES volunteers tutor children in basic skills, help with handicapped students or give career guidance. They share hobbies and life histories. They help the school with record keeping, bulletin boards and special events. SMILES volunteers supplement and enrich the efforts of professional educators.

Children learn new skills working with SMILES volunteers. They learn to communicate with caring adults. And they learn to value the wisdom and resources that older citizens can provide.

☎

For more information about SMILES, call 328-7346.

✍

Salt Lake City School District
School Volunteers, Inc.
440 East First South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111